(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The following projects have been envisaged under the State Sector subject to availability of gas:—

(i) Pragati (350 MW).

(ii) Bawana (1000 MW).

(iii) Replacement of units of IP Station as the existing units of the Station have outlived their life.

Shortage of coal and gas

846. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA :
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that shortage of coal and gas has been responsible for losses in power generation at many thermal power plants in the country in the recent months;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to amend the situation; and

(c) the total number of thermal plants operating below capacity as per the latest information?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) and (c) No coal based thermal power plant in the country is reported to be generating power below capacity because of shortage of coal in the recent months (September and October, 2005).

However, the number of the gas based power plants in the country reporting operation below capacity due to shotate of gas and the resultant generation loss during the recent months is as under:—

Months	Number	Generation loss
September 2005	21	625.05 MUs
October 2005	19	548.17 MUs

(b) NTPC has been directed to purchase gas from the spot market. Ministry fo Power has requested Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas to initiate following actions to improve the gas availability in the gas based power stations:

— Augmentation of production of natural gas from the existing gas fields/wells.

— Increasing availability of gas from domestic sources by awarding has blocks for Exploration & Production (E&P) activities under the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP).

— Encouraging import of gas in the form of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and also making efforts for import of gas through international pipeline projects.

Definition of electrified villages

†847. SHRI SURENDRA LATH :
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether present definition of an electrified village has been turned to be unsatisfactory as it does not cater to the requirements of the villagers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this definition is required to be revised so that a village should be declared electrified only when a certain number of houses therein get electricity;

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(e) the measures taken/proposed to be taken to revise the definition regarding electrification of a village?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED) : (a) to (e) The present definition of village electrification has come in to effect from 1st April, 2004 after due deliberations on the earlier definition which was there since October, 1997. The new definition is more encompassing as also target specific unlike the earlier one which was unsatisfactory.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.